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Group Newsletter

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2007

Newsletter of The Wildlife Society Wildlife Damage Management Working Group Interactions:Volume 13 Issue 1 Winter 2007

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"Newsletter of The Wildlife Society Wildlife Damage Management Working Group Interactions:Volume 13 Issue 1 Winter 2007" (2007). *TWS Wildlife Damage Management Working Group Newsletter*. 10.
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INTERACTIONS

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*We still need help with the
12th Wildlife Damage
Management Conference!*

*To find out what you can do,
please see the story on page 6.*

Special points of interest:

- A new journal focusing on human-wildlife conflicts to be published soon.
- 12th Wildlife Damage Management conference in April
- New editor for Interactions
- Upcoming meetings and dates

Visit us on the web at:
<http://Wildlifedamagegroup.unl.edu>

ELK QUE EARLY TO BEAT THE CHRISTMAS RUSH....

No, not really. It was just a catchy title and an interesting picture.

Hi. I am Joe Caudell, the new editor for Interactions—your newsletter for the Wildlife Damage Working Group of The Wildlife Society. There are two key messages in the preceding sentence:

- 1) Editor
- 2) Your newsletter

I am looking forward to editing submissions from the Working Group about wildlife damage management issues from around the globe, just as members are interested in reading them each quarter. However, if you do not send in articles for me to edit and for other members to read, then this will be a really boring newsletter for both of us.

So, what should you submit. Articles about current events in wildlife damage management, brief articles about current research, news from your part of the world, and other information of interest to members.



Elk que early to beat the Christmas shopping rush in Estes Park, Colorado.

Be sure to submit photos or other graphics with your articles if you have them. Also, I am looking for suggestions for running sections that would contain similar articles each issue.

Much of what you have come to expect from the newsletter will continue, but please provide feedback about changes you would or would not like to see. As I pointed out before, this is your newsletter and I

see my job as making it as relevant and as interesting as possible.

Please feel free to contact me directly with comments, suggestions, or praise. I will be providing an e-mail address soon for any criticism, hate mail, or any other negative comments.

I look forward to serving as the editor of the newsletter.

LETTERS FROM ART: A PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello everyone!

I told Joe I was going to write this while deer hunting during the first week of January. Well, with a high of 10 F, 30 mph winds, and not nearly enough cover (the central South Dakota terrain does

little to block wind), I failed at writing and instead turned my full attention to keeping as much of my skin protected as possible. So now I am close to the end of January and need to write this column, and boy am I glad I waited!

The 2007 WDM Conference

Committees are hard at work and have a lot to show for their efforts. Thanks to everyone who has had a hand in helping with this year's conference! If you haven't heard yet, the Conference will be held at the Omni Corpus Christi

Continued on pg. 2

12TH WILDLIFE DAMAGE MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE

The Twelfth Wildlife Damage Management Conference will be held Monday through Thursday, April 9-12, 2007, in the Omni Corpus Christi Hotel, in Corpus Christi, Texas. The Conference features 2 days of selected speakers covering aspects of wildlife damage management and control, plus 5 optional field trips on April 12th.

Conference Registration

Only registered participants will be admitted to Conference Sessions. On-line and pre-registration is highly recommended, by visiting (<http://wildlifedamagegroup.unl.edu/>) or by returning the form in this announcement. The Pre-registration fee is \$225 (USD) (1-day Pre-registration is \$125) and includes a single copy of the Proceedings to be mailed to you upon publication (approximately 6-8 months following the Conference). The student registration fee is \$50.00 (USD) (no 1-day student fee option). Pre-registration must be accompanied by your payment and must be postmarked by March 16, 2007. Pre-registration

saves you money and eliminates waiting in long registration lines.

Pre-registration fees will be refunded minus 10% administration fee, if the request for refund is postmarked on or before March 16, 2007. No refunds will be granted after this date. Pre-registration fees can, however, be transferred to another individual to permit their attendance in your place. In this case, the WDMWG Secretary/Treasurer must be notified of this change by telephone, FAX, or mail, prior to the Conference.

Registration on-site, as well as pre-registration forms postmarked after March 16, 2007, will be at the rate of \$275.00 (USD) per person (1-day regular registration is \$175).



Omni Corpus Christi Hotel
Preliminary Program

Special Symposia

Urban Coyotes

Feral Pig Management

Reduction of Non-Target Hazards of Rodenticide Use

Contributors:

USDA/APHIS/Wildlife Services

Berryman Institute

Critter Control

Northeast Section of The Wildlife Society

Texas Chapter of The Wildlife Society

Pennsylvania Chapter of The Wildlife Society

South Dakota Chapter of The Wildlife Society



Organized and Arranged by:

The Wildlife Damage Management Working Group of TWS

LETTERS FROM ART (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

Hotel, Corpus Christi, Texas, April 9-12, 2007. Conference registration, hotel, and preliminary program information have all been posted on our website. This year we are offering on-line registra-

tion - an option I hope everyone takes advantage of. In previous years this was not available, and our then Secretary/Treasurer, Ray Sterner, certainly had his work cut out for him. As we continue with these conferences, we are getting better and better. Although everyone can see this on our website, this year's conference will have

a great plenary session led off by TWS Executive Director Michael Hutchins' talk on why wildlife populations must be controlled. Then, for the next 2 days, there will be 5 separate paper and 1 poster sessions followed by a day with 5 different field trip options. If you've gone to conferences before, but not taken the field trip, then this is the year to break with tradition!

What I've experienced directing the planning efforts for this year's conference are no different than other experiences I've

had as a member of our Working Group. The sheer number of people ready to help has simply been phenomenal! Even though 2007 makes it 10 years I've been an active WG member, I continually re-



WDMWG President - Art Smith

main impressed with the commitment of the many members of the WG. And this is something to be very proud of.

At annual TWS conferences, I usually attend the Leaders Lunch, Working Group Leaders meeting, and "regular" meetings of several other working groups. Seemingly at all of these at one point or another, discussion turns to member recruitment,

budgets, and other business-type questions. Although several other working groups are good at hosting TWS sessions or workshops, none of them have come close to the success the WDMWG has had with respect to publications and stand-alone conferences. Commonly we are held as an example by Council on what a working group can become. This is something I take a lot of pride in, and I certainly hope you do too. Each time I am asked how we can do the things we do, without hesitating I say it is because of the number of qualified, willing, and able members

who help out at a moment's notice.

Our success allows us to consider projects other groups cannot. And as we continue to evolve and make forward progress, the more things we can consider. So with that, I wish to ask each of you the following: First, renew your TWS and WDMWG memberships; second, please consider attending the 2007 WDM conference; and lastly, please let me or any of the Board know about concepts or ideas you'd like the WG to consider as future projects. One of my main goals as Chair (after getting through our conference of course!) is to develop a semi-permanent group of folks interested in running the WDM conference every 2 years, thereby taking some of this burden away from the Board. This should allow for some institutional memory to develop to run the conferences more efficiently, but also to free the Board up for other duties. We have a good track record for having done good things in the past, but have a great potential for doing even more in the future. As an individual you can make a difference and contribute. If an anonymous grad student who took over as Editor of the newsletter in the spring of 1998 can do it, so can you!

Thank you for your support, please renew your membership, and hope to see you in Texas in April!!

Art Smith

CALLS FROM THE FIELD (OR A HOUSE, OR A FARM, OR A...)

If you have interesting and truly unbelievable stories about experiences with the public, let us know. We will have a contest each quarter for the most interesting stories. Winners will receive a free subscription to Interactions. Below are a few examples received on the Indiana Wildlife Conflicts Information Hotline.

Synchronized sh..uh.....pooping

A call was received on the hotline about Canada geese leaving evidence of their presence - "I tell you I think they have synchronized sh..pooping behavior. When a car honks, they all sh..poop at the same time! What should I do?!?" This gentleman may have stumbled

upon a yet unknown behavior. It may be of great value for a research to undertake this research to determine if this is indeed the case. What should the gentleman do in this case - stop honking his horn.

New attractant for bats

A call came in about a dog that came back from "doing its business" during the night with a bat attached to its rear end. The dog's owners were able to remove the bat, but noticed bite marks. The bat was tested for rabies and the dog quarantined. The bat tested negative, but a few nights later, the same thing occurred. The same dog came back from "taking care of business" with another bat attached to its hind end.

Scientists believe that research into this dog's rear end may lead to improved delivery techniques for bat vaccinations.

Combination of anthrax and glass kills bird

Wildlife diseases are becoming more and more a part of human-wildlife conflicts. Media stories about wildlife diseases are invaluable for assisting in diagnosis of mortality events. A recent story on anthrax probably prompted this diagnosis. A gentleman called and said that he was "concerned because I saw a small bird hit the window of his house and die. The bird is just laying outside my window and I am worried it may be anthrax." Anthrax or glass - you decide.

THE 12TH WDM CONFERENCE NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT

There is still time for organizations, businesses, and State Chapters of The Wildlife Society to support the 12th Wildlife Damage Management Conference. Typical pledges range from \$100 to \$500, but we are happy to take any

amount. All supporters will be identified at the conference. If you would like to pro-

"Several positions still need volunteers to help put on this quality event"

vide support for the conference, contact the Wildlife Damage Management Working Group Treasurer Scott Henke at (361) 593-3689 or Kfseh00@tamuk.edu.

State Chapters can also provide assistance in the form of student travel grants for attendance at this meet-

ing. This is a great way for future professionals to learn more about current trends

and research in the field of wildlife damage management.

Anyone interested in assisting with the conference in any capacity should contact either Art or Jim. Several positions still need volunteers to help put on this quality event.

Jim Armstrong (334) 844-9233
Email: armstjb@auburn.edu

Art Smith (606) 773-7595
Email: art.smith@state.sd.us

FIRST ISSUE OF *HUMAN-WILDLIFE CONFLICTS* TO BE PUBLISHED SOON

The Jack H. Berryman Institute will soon be publishing a new peer-reviewed journal titled *Human-Wildlife Conflicts* (HWC). Human-wildlife conflicts occur whenever humans or wildlife have an adverse impact upon the other. HWC is dedicated to covering this rapidly-expanding discipline. Its intended audience is educators, researchers, Wildlife Services employees, and on-the-ground practitioners. HWC features articles describing original research on such topics as wildlife behavior, ecology, population dynamics, environmental history, economics, and techniques. It will also include opinion pieces, letters to the editor, and updates on recent events that

are of interest to our readers.

Contributors are encouraged to send manuscripts and cover letter via e-mail to the editor or on computer disk by mail to:

Michael R. Conover, Editor, *Human-Wildlife Conflicts*, Department of Wildland Resources, 5230 Old Main Hill, Utah State University, Logan, UT 84322-5230.



Detailed submission guidelines are available on the Berryman Institute website: www.BerrymanInstitute.org (click the button for HWC journal).

To receive a free copy of *Human-Wildlife Conflicts*, contact Michael Conover, Editor, HWC, at hwc@cc.usu.edu (include your name and mailing address).

BIO FOR INTERACTIONS' NEW EDITOR: JOE CAUDELL

I thought some of you who I don't know may want to know more about me. Others may have lost touch over the years and be curious about what I have been up to. Still others may not care and can skip to the next article.

I am currently the Wildlife Disease Biologist for USDA APHIS Wildlife Services in Indiana (and Ohio). My Bachelor's degree is in Wildlife Management from the University of Georgia Warnell School of Forest Resources (1998). I obtained my M.S. and



Your new editor hard at work in South Dakota. Photo: G. Wiscomb

Ph.D. from Utah State University and the Berryman Institute working on brown tree snakes and eared grebes, respectively, both of which were earned in 2001.

I worked for the University of Georgia Cooperative Extension Service as an Education Program Specialist for over 7 years. I spent a brief time (1 year) as the Assistant Director of the Notre Dame Environmental Research Center. Since 2004, I have worked for Wildlife Services in Maine, Nevada, and Indiana.

More Useless Information about Joe Caudell

Favorite Quote from a Wildlife Biologist—uhh, that looks like it hurts.

Which Simpson's character would make the best wildlife biologist—Carl Carlson

If I weren't a wildlife biologist, what would I be—rich.

Favorite music group—Asleep At the Wheel.

HUMAN-WILDLIFE CONFLICT IN THE NEWS

Feral swine

Wild pigs in U.S. spreading disease, ruining property, experts say

National Geographic

<http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/2006/11/061122-wild-pigs.html>

Feral swine increase may endanger wildlife

The Clarion News, Pennsylvania

<http://www2.theclarionnews.com/Living/60770.shtml>

Feral pigs go hog-wild in Texas: our new neighbor is a real swine, with a nose for trouble

Star Telegram, Texas

http://www.dfw.com/mld/dfw/news/local/states/texas/arlington/16074241.htm?source=rss&channel=dfw_arlington

Hog wild! Feral pigs invade Texas. Million of pigs eat their way through farms, frustrating owners.

ABC News, National

<http://abcnews.go.com/WNT/story?id=2650348>

Raccoons

Rabid raccoon attacks woman on porch.

Excite News (Associated Press), Connecticut

<http://apnews.excite.com/article/20070111/D8MIPIE00.html>



Armadillos

Armadillos really are marching north: armored animals have found their way to Illinois

Belleville News-Democrat, Illinois

<http://www.belleville.com/mld/belleville/sports/16433676.htm>

Exotic Animals

Exotic pet warning issued: mission of animals that enter the U.S. illegally pose a health risk, officials say

Herald Net (Associated Press)

http://www.heraldnet.com/stories/06/11/28/100wir_a5pets001.cfm

Deer

Hunt aims to buck trend of deer problem: Michigan city OKs culling to curtail accidents on roads.

Chicago Tribune, Michigan

<http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/nationworld/chicago/0701280403jan28.1.3297438.story?coll=chi-newsnationworld-hed>

For current stories about Human-Wildlife Conflicts in the news – visit the Internet Center for Wildlife Damage Management <http://icwdm.org/>

RECENT WILDLIFE DAMAGE MANAGEMENT RESEARCH

This section will highlight current research in our field each quarter. Articles are located by conducting a search of periodical databases which contain possible relevant content. If you have an wildlife damage management related article that has been accepted for publication and want to ensure that your peers are aware of its publication, please send a copy of the article to the editor at joe.n.caudell@aphis.usda.gov. Nothing is inferred by an articles exclusion or inclusion in this column. Many of these articles can be found on-line at The Wildlife Society web site (paid members only; www.wildlife.org) and the APHIS USDA Wildlife Services National Wildlife Research Center web site (<http://www.aphis.usda.gov/ws/nwrc/is/publications.html>).

Blejwas, K. M., C. L. Williams, G. T. Shin, D. R. McCullough, M. M. Jaeger. 2006. Salivary DNA evidence convicts breeding male coyotes of killing sheep. *Journal of Wildlife Management* 70:1087-1093.

Boulanger, J. A., L. L. Bingler, P. D. Curtis, D. H. Lein, A. J. Lembo, Jr. 2006. A polyvinyl chloride bait station for dispensing rabies vaccine to raccoons in suburban landscapes. *Wildlife Society Bulletin* 34:1206-1211.

D'Angelo, G. J., J. G. D'Angelo, G. R. Callagher, D. A. Osborn, K. V. Miller, and R. J. Warren. 2006. Evaluation of wildlife warning reflectors for altering white-tailed deer behavior. *Wildlife Society Bulletin* 34:1175-1183.

Harrington, J. L., and M. R. Conover. 2006. Characteristics of ungulate behavior and mortality associated with wire fences. *Wildlife Society Bulletin* 34:1295-1305.

Hernandez, S., S. L. Locke, M. W. Cooke, L. A. Harveson, D. S. Davis, R. R. Lopez, N. J. Silvy, M. A. Fraker. 2006. Effects of Spay-Vac® on urban female white-tailed deer movements. *Wildlife Society Bulletin* 34:1430-1434.

Holevinski, R. A., R. A. Makecki, P. D. Curtis. 2006. Can hunting of translocated nuisance Canada geese reduce local conflicts? *Wildlife Society Bulletin* 34:845-849.

Jonker, S. A., R. M. Muth, J. F. Organ, R. R. Zwick, W. F. Siemer. 2006. Experiences with beaver damage and attitudes of Massachusetts residents toward beaver. *Wildlife Society Bulletin* 34:1009-1021.

Kimball, B. A., and D. L. Nolte. Development of a new deer repellent for the protection of forest resources. *Western Journal of Applied Forestry* 21:108-111.

Muth, R. M., R. R. Zwick, M. E. Mather, J. F. Organ, J. J. Daigle, S. A. Jonker. 2006. Unnecessary source of pain and suffering or necessary management tool: attitudes of conservation professionals toward outlawing leghold traps. *Wildlife Society Bulletin* 34:706-715.

Linz, G. M., H. J. Homan, A. A. Slowik, L. B. Penry. 2006. Evaluation of registered pesticides as repellent for reducing blackbird (Icteridae) damage to sunflower. *Crop Protection* 25:842-847.

VerCauteren, K.C., J. M. Gilsdorf, S. E. Hygnstrom, P. B. Fioranelli, J. A. Wilson, and S. Barras. 2006. Green and blue lasers are ineffective for dispersing deer at night. *Wildlife Society Bulletin* 34:371-374.

VerCauteren K. C., M. J. Lavelle, and S. E. Hygnstrom. 2006. A simulation model for determining cost-effectiveness of fences for reducing deer damage. *Wildlife Society Bulletin*. 34:16-22.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON FERTILITY CONTROL FOR WILDLIFE

You are cordially invited to attend and participate in the 6th International Conference on Fertility Control for Wildlife. This will be held 3 - 5 September, 2007 at the Central Science Laboratory, York, United Kingdom. The web site is now inviting expressions of interest, suggestions for session themes, abstract submission and registration at: <http://www.wildlifefertility.org/>.

Papers are invited on (but not limited to) the following themes: Fertility control tools, delivery methods, wildlife management applications, fertility control and conserva-

tion, fertility control in zoos, regulatory issues, welfare and ethical issues

Key dates are:

- Expressions of interest: 31 January 2007
- Preliminary programme announced: 28 February 2007
- Submission of abstracts: 30 April 2007
- Confirmation of accepted abstracts: 31 May 2007

- Registration (reduced fee): 30 June 2007
- Final programme announced: 31 July 2007
- Conference: 3 - 5 September 2007

We would be delighted to see you at ICFCW 2007.

Dave Cowan

On behalf of the ICFCW 2007 Organising Committee

12TH WILDLIFE DAMAGE MANAGEMENT REGISTRATION FORM AND HOTEL INFORMATION

*Additional information and
on-line registration available
at:*

<http://wildlifedamagegroup.unl.edu/>

| | | | |
|---|------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| (Print as it should appear on name badge) | | | PLEASE PRINT |
| Last Name | First Name | Middle Initial | |
| Organization or Affiliation | | | |
| Mailing Address | | | |
| City | State | Zip Code | |
| Phone Number () | | [] Check if you are a speaker | |

NOTE – All registrations include 1 copy of the Proceedings and 1 Banquet ticket

| | |
|--|--------------|
| _____ Pre-Registration (by 3/16/07) | \$225/person |
| _____ Regular Registration (after 3/16/07) | \$275/person |
| _____ 1-day Pre-Registration (by 3/16/07) | \$125/person |
| _____ 1-day Regular Registration (after 3/16/07) | \$175/person |

If attending one day, write date attending _____

| | |
|--|-------------|
| _____ Student Registration (Student verification required) | \$50/person |
| _____ Extra Banquet ticket for spouse/guest | \$35/person |

----- Optional Field Trips (all on Thursday, April 12th):-----

| | |
|--|--|
| _____ Trip #1 – ½ day wildlife viewing, Laureles div. King Ranch | \$35/person |
| _____ Trip #2 – full day birding, Norias div. King Ranch | \$100/person |
| _____ Trip #3 – ½ day historical tour of the King Ranch | \$35/person |
| _____ Trip #4 – full day offshore fishing from Port Arkansas | \$80/person |
| _____ Trip #5 – Hog Hunt raffle | free to enter raffle, pay if you win!! |

* persons interested in raffle should choose (& pay for) 2nd choice field trip.

Name of spouse/guest attending banquet or field trip _____

\$ _____ **Total Payment Enclosed**

| | | |
|---|------------------------------------|------------------|
| [] Check or money order | [] Visa | [] Mastercard |
| (in U.S. Funds drawn on a U.S. Bank) | Credit Card # _____ | |
| Please make checks or money orders | Expiration date: mo _____ yr _____ | |
| payable to: Wildlife Damage Management Working Group | Signature _____ | |

For Registration inquiries or to mail or fax payments please contact: Scott Henke, WDMWG Secretary/Treasurer, (361) 593-3689, Caesar Kleberg Wildlife Research Institute, MSC 218, 700 University Blvd., Texas A&M University-Kingsville, Kingsville, Texas 78363-8202, Fax (361) 593-3788.

HOTEL RESERVATIONS

The Conference has a block of hotel rooms set aside at the Omni Corpus Christi Hotel, Corpus Christi, TX. Rooms will be available at the Conference Rate of \$78.00/night for a single, \$115.00 double, \$125.00 triple, and \$135.00 for quad (plus 9% state and 6% city occupancy taxes) from April 9-12, 2007. State of Texas employees must provide appropriate forms and identifications to receive State rates that defray TX taxes.

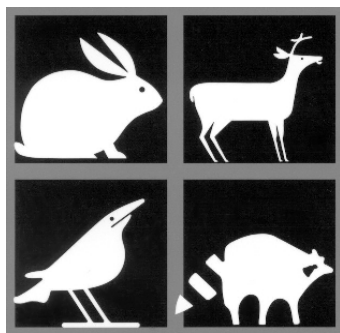
Reservations can be made by calling 1-800-THE OMNI (843-6664) and to receive conference rates must reference the group code "Wildlife Damage Management Meeting" or by visiting the web site at www.OmniHotels.com using reference group code # 14500806635 for the Group Rate or #14500806634 for the Texas State Rate.

Room reservations must be made no later than March 19, 2007, to assure Conference Rates. This hotel provides complimentary shuttles to and from the Corpus Christi International Airport. The Corpus Christi International Airport is 12 minutes from the hotel and features full jet service on American, Continental, Delta, and southwest airlines.

Newsletter of The Wildlife
Society
Wildlife Damage
Management Working
Group

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The Wildlife Society Wildlife Damage Management Working Group

Our Mission:

The mission of the Wildlife Damage Management Working Group is to promote better understanding of the challenges of managing human-wildlife conflicts and to provide a forum for TWS members to advance their skills and knowledge of wildlife damage management practices.

Our Goals:

- Enhance understanding within the profession and various stakeholder groups of the need for responsible wildlife damage management activities.
- Facilitate information transfer to wildlife management professionals and various publics.
- Serve as a professional catalyst, clearinghouse, and conduit for wildlife damage management information.
- Assist TWS Council and resource management agencies with wildlife damage management policy formulation, analysis, and decision making.
- Promote development of new technologies and maintenance of existing cost-effective management tools.

UPCOMING MEETINGS, CONFERENCES, AND EVENTS

February

February 15, 2007, is the deadline for submitting an abstract or requesting an associated meeting at *The Wildlife Society 14th Annual Conference* in Tucson, Arizona. For more information on submitting abstracts, visit The Wildlife Society's web page at www.wildlife.org.

April

The *12th Wildlife Damage Management Conference* will be held Monday through Thursday, April 9-12, 2007, in the Omni Corpus Christi Hotel, in Corpus Christi, Texas. More information about this conference can be found at <http://wildlifedamagegroup.unl.edu/>.

Abstracts for the *6th International Conference on Fertility Control for Wildlife* should be submitted by 30 April 2007.

The conference will be held on September 3 - 5, 2007, at the Central Science Laboratory, York, United Kingdom. Visit the website for more information: <http://www.wildlifefertility.org/>.

June

The *Urban Wildlife National Conference* will be held on June 18-20, 2007, in Portland, Oregon. The conference is co-sponsored by the TWS Urban Wildlife Working Group, the National Arbor Day Foundation, and others. More information about this conference can be found at www.arborday.org.

August

The USDA APHIS Wildlife Services National Wildlife Research Center will host the *Managing Vertebrate Invasive Species Conference* on August 7-9, 2007, in Ft. Collins,

Colorado. The symposium will highlight research, management and public education associated with vertebrate invasive species (mammals, birds, reptiles and amphibians). More information about this conference can be found at <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/ws/nwrc/>.

September

6th International Conference on Fertility Control for Wildlife will be held on September 3 - 5, 2007, at the Central Science Laboratory, York, United Kingdom, <http://www.wildlifefertility.org/>.

The *14th Annual Conference of The Wildlife Society* will be held on September 22-26, 2007, in Tucson, AZ. More information can be found at www.wildlife.org.